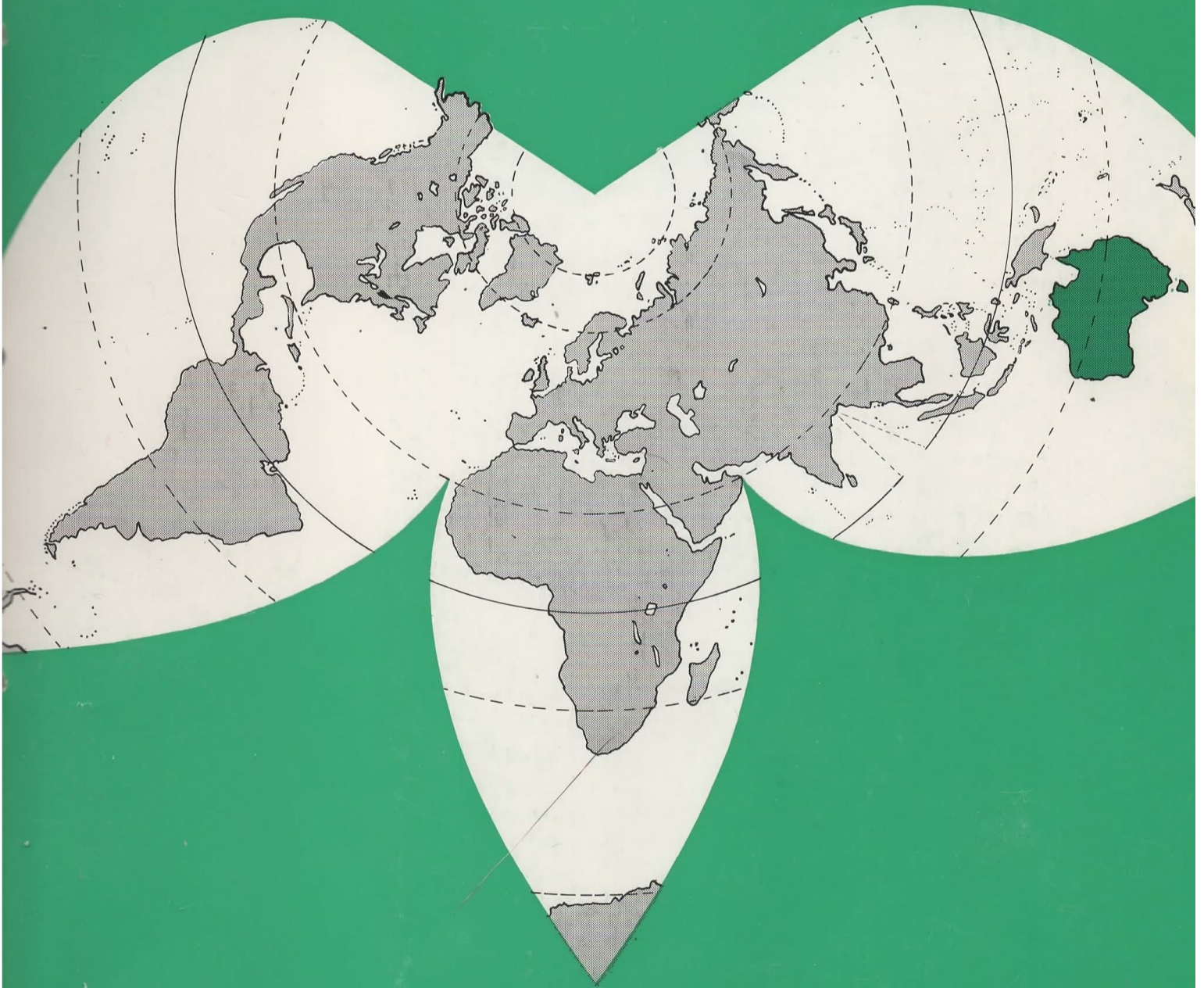


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# THE SPREAD OF PRINTING

EDITED BY COLIN CLAIR



EASTERN HEMISPHERE

*Australia*



## THE SPREAD OF PRINTING

### *A history of printing outside Europe in monographs*

EDITED BY COLIN CLAIR

After printing with movable type was invented in Central Europe about the middle of the fifteenth century, the craft began to spread over the world almost at once, though it arrived in some areas much earlier than in others. This series aims to give a concise history of early printing in all parts of the world outside Continental Europe and Great Britain. Each monograph is written by a specialist on the subject and covers one specific area. The series will be complete in approximately twenty monographs, equally divided between countries of the Western and the Eastern Hemispheres.

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# THE SPREAD OF PRINTING

EASTERN HEMISPHERE

## *Australia*

*by*

*Detrich*  
*Hans*  
D. H. BORCHARDT

1969

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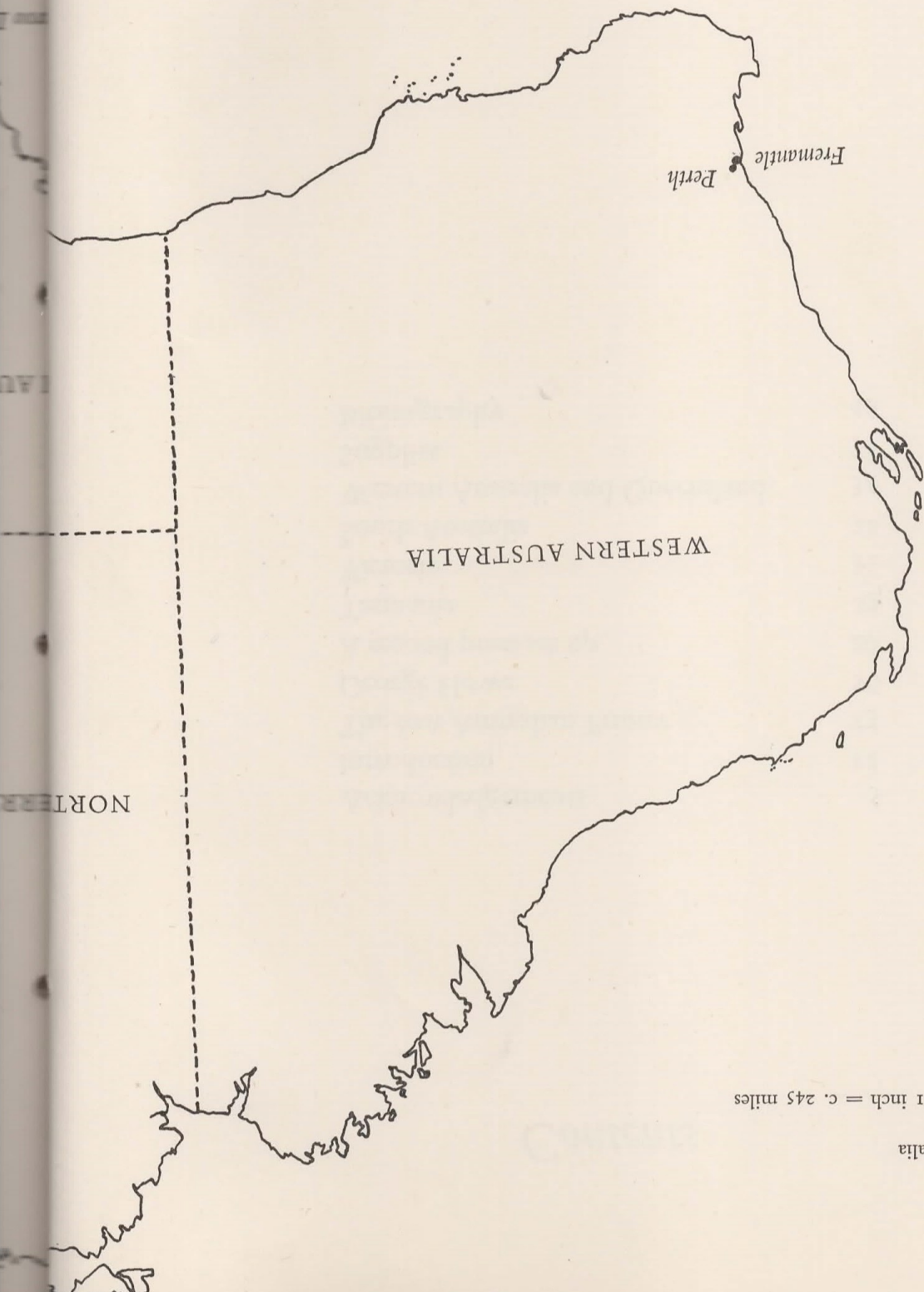
The author is indebted to his colleagues G. D. Richardson, Principal Librarian, Public Library of New South Wales, and Miss P. Reynolds, Librarian, La Trobe Library, State Library of Victoria, and to his friend Professor D. Pike, for advice.



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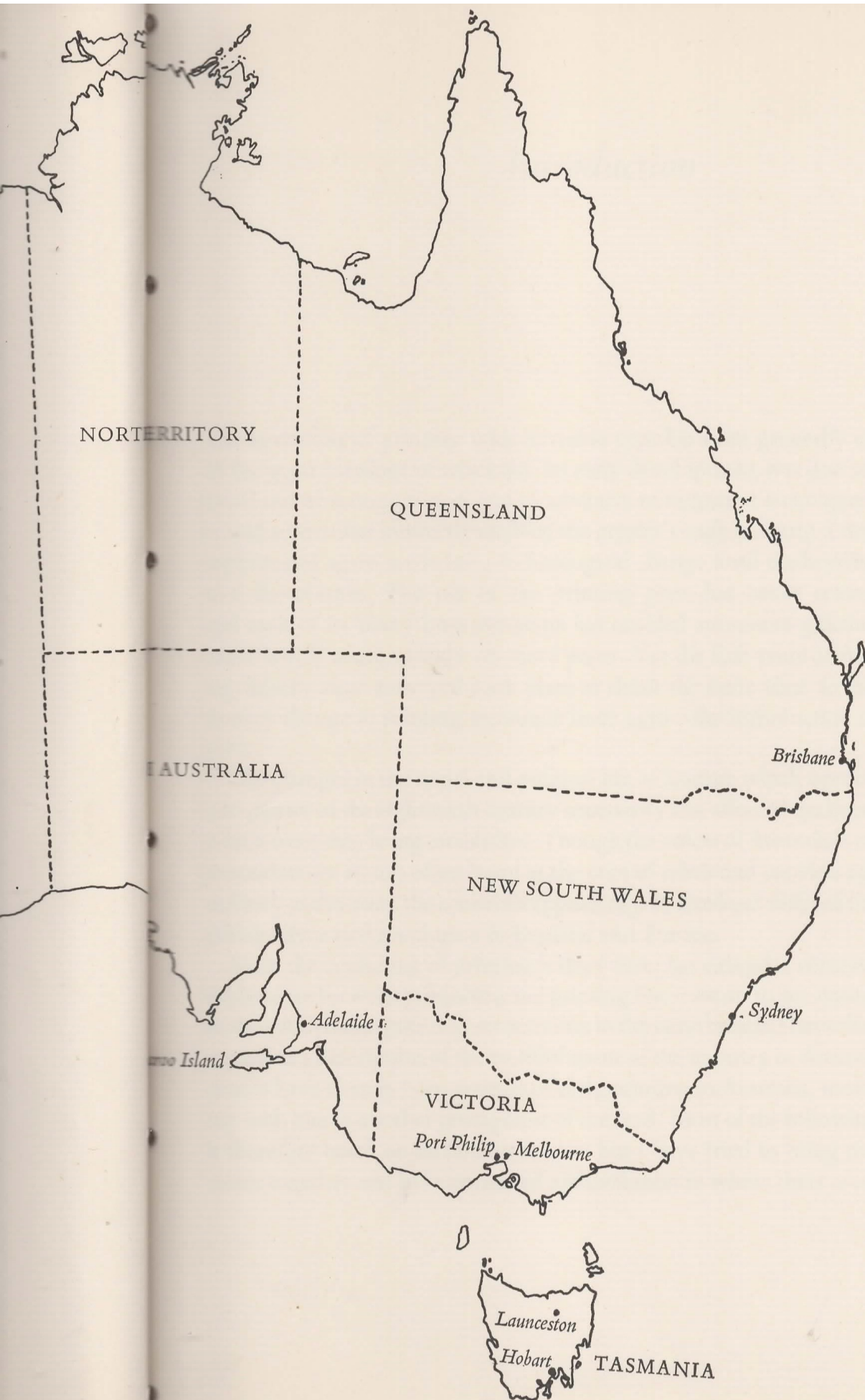
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Sketch map of Australia  
 Scale 1 : 15,625,000  
 1 cm = 156.25 km; 1 inch = c. 245 miles



Approximate areas	km <sup>2</sup>	sq. miles
Victoria	227,700	87,900
New South Wales	804,700	310,700
Queensland	1,731,400	668,500
South Australia	1,052,600	406,400
Northern Territory	1,288,000	497,300
Western Australia	2,527,600	975,900
Tasmania	67,850	26,200
Commonwealth	7,699,850	2,972,900





## *Introduction*

The invention of printing with movable type has been generally considered one of the great blessings of mankind. Its early development was due to a number of social and economic factors and to advances in industrial techniques which directly and sometimes indirectly enabled the printer's craft to attain a degree of public support not again accorded a technological change until the heyday of the Industrial Revolution. The use of the printing press has never ceased to increase, and each of its many improvements has enabled successive generations to print more words more quickly on more paper. Yet the first years of Australian printing history here surveyed took place at about the same time as the first revolutionary change in printing technique since 1450—the introduction of the cylinder press.

The changes in the social and political life of Europe which occurred during the last quarter of the eighteenth century necessarily also affected the European colonies which were then being established. Though the voices of Australia's earliest political journalists are all too often heard as the cries of rebels and convicts against civil and military authorities, the sonorous appeals of J. P. Fawcner differed little from those which advocated revolution in England and Europe.

Since the beginning of printing history there has existed a constant and inextricable nexus between publishing and printing but it seems to me unnecessary always to deal with these quite distinct activities in the same breath. I have therefore limited myself to a description of the establishment of the industry in Australia. Several accounts have already been written of early printing in Australia, most of them dealing with one or another protagonist of the craft. Most of the following brief history is therefore based on secondary sources but I have tried to bring many diverging views together and have consulted archival sources where there was any doubt. If



Australia had not been conceived as a penal colony but as a haven for free settlers whose minimum admission requirement would have been a pass in the university entrance examinations, there would have been no problem in establishing printing presses at a rate of so many per thousand inhabitants. As it was, Howe's contribution to Australian civilization and culture is not that he successfully overcame real technical problems but that he overcame minor technical hurdles in the face of strong social disapproval, both in England and in the colony.

The social structure of early colonial New South Wales was strongly paternalistic. Once the Governor himself supported the development of printing, the road to further development of the industry was wide open. In fact, printing was introduced by proconsular decree and example, and if the raw material available for the process was inadequate it was so because social pressures in England did not favour the supply of better materials or of free settlers trained in the craft of printing.

To the colonists of 1790-1820, 'communication' meant in the first place the regular supply of food and implements with which to create more food, but it also came to imply even then the propagation of news and the relaying of information from the mother country. Caught as they were between unconscious and conscious needs to develop and show independence, and the inevitable dependence on mother-child ties, the communication of news became for them early an important stimulus for the establishment of printing presses. It is therefore quite natural that the beginnings of printing are linked with the publication of news sheets and other serials, used for the dissemination of information. Journalism was the handmaiden to the growth of early printing in all Australian colonies.



## *The First Australian Printer*

It is impossible to present an account of the beginnings of printing history in Australia without quoting the following passage from David Collins: 'A small printing-press, which had been brought into the settlement by Mr. Phillip, and had remained from that time unemployed, was now found very useful; a very decent young man, one George Hughes, of some abilities in the printing line, having been found equal to conducting the whole business of the press. All orders were now printed, and a number thrown off sufficient to ensure a more general publication of them than had hitherto been accomplished.'<sup>1</sup>

This unassuming statement is the only reference to the establishment of an industry at the end of the eighteenth century in what was then the 'other end of the earth'. By 1965 this same industry provided employment for over 21,000 skilled persons,<sup>2</sup> or 0.56% in the total work force of that year.

Collins was personally interested in the use of the press for more efficient communication and his own contribution to the establishment of printing in Australia will be mentioned later on. His comment that the press 'had remained from that time unemployed' is interesting because it allows us to conclude that there were no printers among the convicts and few settlers who had come to Australia before 1795. Those who are engaged in the craft today will of course also be thankful that the first person to follow this calling in Australia was 'a very decent young man'—as the father of so important a craft should be. George Hughes had other abilities besides his knowledge of printing and his name appears as an actor on some broad-

1. Collins, David, *An Account of the English Colony in New South Wales*... London, T. Caddell and W. Davies, 1798 (p. 435).

2. National Conference on Employment and Technological Change in the Printing Industry, May 1966. *Employment and Technological Change in the Printing Industry*; Report of the National Conference ...[Canberra], Department of Labour and National Service, 1966 (p. 4).



sides probably printed by himself. The biographical note in the *Australian Dictionary of Biography*<sup>1</sup> contains no information about his origins, or the dates and places of his birth and death. His arrival in Australia is not even marked by inclusion on a passenger list of the ships known to have come to Sydney in the relevant years and for all we know he may have been a convict, a soldier, a sailor, or perhaps one of the few free settlers that arrived in Australia during the colony's first years. There is no evidence that he had ever been apprenticed to the printing trade and the first fruit of his venture as a printer looks indeed a rather amateurish effort.

Among the first documents printed in Australia at the command of Governor Hunter, is an official notice spelling out 'Instructions to the watchmen of the town divisions'. Dated 18 November, 1796, about 350 years after printing with movable type was developed in Europe, its aesthetic quality leaves much to be desired. (Plate 1).<sup>2</sup>

Perhaps we should not expect this specimen of early Australian printing to have been more competently produced. The old wooden screw press which had been set up in a room at Government House, Sydney, had been lying idle since it arrived on board the First Fleet. Most likely it had been old before it was 'sent for use in the Colonies', a discard from one of the London or provincial printers. There is no record of the date when type founts, ink, and suitable paper arrived in the Colony but it must be assumed that some of these essential items had come together with or soon after the wooden press was landed. Sometime in 1795-1796 Hughes began experimenting with the material at his disposal<sup>3</sup> and in the absence of suitable proof of his having received training as a printer, we may assume that he was probably self-taught. The quality of his work is certainly considerably inferior to that of trained printers of his time.

Besides the above-mentioned 'Instructions' Hughes printed a small number of the Governor's orders and some playbills but none bear his name as a printer. It seems that he went back to England sometime after March 1800—when his name last appeared on a playbill as a performer—leaving no record of his movements.

1. *Australian Dictionary of Biography*. Melbourne, Melbourne University Press, 1966 (Vol. 1: 562).

2. In this connexion it is interesting to note some contradiction in Ferguson's account of Australian incunabula. In his book *The Howes and their press* Ferguson refers on page 18 to a playbill dated July 23, 1796 but in his *Bibliography of Australia* he makes no reference to that particular playbill.

3. *Historical Records of Australia*. Sydney, Library Committee of the Commonwealth Parliament, 1914-25 (Section 1, Vol. 2: 555, 744).



Whatever criticism posterity may have levelled at Governor Hunter, it was under his patronage and in his own residence that the first documents were printed on this Continent. From then until October 1801 there is no evidence of anyone having made use of the old press and its sorry collection of type. However, on 9 October, 1801, Governor King issued the following important notice: 'A printed abridgement of certain General Orders from the 28th September, 1800, to the 8th October, 1801, are distributed for the purpose of reminding the inhabitants at large of those ordinances, which are to be placed in some conspicuous part of the houses of such as they are sent to.'<sup>1</sup> No copy of this collection of General Orders appears to have survived but there can be no doubt that this was the first book-like publication produced in Australia. If this was not a book in the generally accepted sense of the term it was certainly a reprint of General Orders more or less in broadside form and sewn or stuck together like a pamphlet. We don't know the craftsman who reprinted these Orders but it is possible that it was the first larger effort of George Howe, who is usually referred to as the father of printing and most appropriately of journalism in Australia.

1. *Historical Records of New South Wales*. Sydney, Government Printer, 1892-1901 (Vol. 4: 590).



## George Howe

However little we may know of Australia's first printer, we know quite a lot of George Howe who succeeded Hughes as printer for the Colonial Administration. Howe<sup>1</sup> was born in 1769 in St. Christopher in the West Indies where his father, Thomas Howe, worked as a printer. George learned the rudiments of the craft in his father's house where he also received a thorough education along classical lines as was the custom in the eighteenth century. To further his education and craftsmanship he went to London in 1790 and worked on a number of newspapers, including *The Times*, both as a printer and as an editor. He was sentenced to death for shop-lifting in 1799, but this was commuted to transportation for life and in November 1800, Howe arrived in the *Royal Admiral*. He had been granted permission to take his wife and son with him but his wife died on the voyage.

Soon after his arrival, Howe was called to take charge of the printing press abandoned by George Hughes. He quickly proved his ability and though he had only a very limited range of type and small quantities of paper and ink at his disposal he impressed the Governor sufficiently to be granted a conditional pardon within three years of his arrival. During these first few years Howe was mainly engaged in the printing of Government Orders and was soon referred to as the Government Printer, the first of this important group of public servants in Australia. In 1802 he printed and issued as the first Australian book a cumulation of official notices, instructions, and regulations for the control of life in the convict colony, under the title, *New South Wales General Standing Orders*. Its imprint was 'Sydney, printed at Government Press, 1802'.

In his effusive reference to George Howe, Timperley stresses that Governor King had a full appreciation of 'the salutary effects which the Press, wisely conducted,

1. *Australian Dictionary of Biography*. Melbourne, 1966 (Vol. 1: 557-9).



## INSTRUCTIONS to the WATCHMEN of the TOWN DIVISIONS.

THE Watchmen are to apprehend all Night Walkers and all Disorderly and Suspicious Persons, and to detain them till they are examined by the Sitting Magistrate.

They are to interrogate all who are found lying about in their Division not being Inhabitants thereof, and cause them to give an account of themselves. If they call themselves Free People and off the Store, they are to produce their Certificates, if they are People travelling from Parramatta, the Hawkesbury or any other distant place to Sydney, they are to produce their Passports or Leave from the persons authorised to give them.

Gentlemen's Servants will have Passes from their respective Masters. The Watchmen will inform themselves of all Strangers who may come to reside within their Division and report them at the end of the Week to the Civil Magistrate. They will be particularly careful to secure and bring before the Magistrates all Gamblers and Drunkards, and to enforce in their respective Divisions a due reverence for the Sabbath Day, and not to permit any to be Idly Strolling about during Divine Service.

A Bell will be rung as soon as possible, which will ring the Working Parties to and from their Labor, and also at the Hour of Nine in the Evening, at which time it is expected that all the inhabitants shall betake themselves to their several habitations unless they are obliged to be abroad on any particular business.

The Watchmen on going their rounds are to examine the doors and windows of the different houses in their Division, and to call the hour of the Night as nearly as they can guess.

Although the office of Watchman in most Towns is performed at the expense of the inhabitants, being for the public security, yet the Governor in consideration of the trouble attending the faithful discharge of such a duty thinks fit to order that the persons to officiating shall be allowed what is called the Free Ration for themselves and families, an occasional supply of Stops and half a pint of Spirits every Saturday, if their diligence may deserve farther notice the Magistrates will have an eye to them and recommend them to other indulgences.

Sydney, Nov. 18 1796

By Command of His Excellency.



could not fail to exert upon the crude elements of which the population was composed'.<sup>1</sup> Seen against a background of probably no more than 30 per cent literacy in a population of about 7,000 such praise might have been appropriate from Governor King's contemporaries but leads one to assume that Timperley lacked a proper understanding of the social conditions of the early nineteenth century. Howe's *Sydney Gazette and New South Wales Advertiser* which began on 5 March, 1803, continued until 1842 when it became one of many victims of an economic depression. (Plate 2.)

The political, social, and economic problems which beset this first Australian newspaper have been adequately dealt with by a number of writers.<sup>2</sup> From the printer's point of view the principal obstacle to continued success of the *Sydney Gazette* was the persistent shortage of type, paper, and ink, not to mention the inadequacy of the wooden press. On the point of inadequate supplies Timperley's comment is very much to the point. Having stressed the difficulties frequently caused by the delay of vessels plying between London and Sydney, he goes on to say: 'Now and then some solitary adventurer would bless the inhabitants with an "investment"—i.e. a melange of ill-sorted goods banished from the lumber-rooms of London, for the express accommodation of the good folk at "Botany Bay",—for whom, in sooth, "anything was good enough!"'

1. Timperley, C. H., *Encyclopaedia of Literary and Typographical Anecdote* (2nd ed). London, Bohn, 1842 (p. 379-81).

2. Ferguson, J. A. [and others], *The Howes and their Press*. Sydney, Sunnybrook Press, 1936.

## *A second Press set up*

It appears that sometime in 1799/1800 a second press arrived in the Colony. On 24 December, 1802, David Collins wrote to Under-Secretary Sullivan for the supply of 'some of the articles which have occurred to me, and appear the most indispensable requisite in forming the new settlement'.<sup>1</sup> The settlement in question was that at Port Phillip and the letter bearing the request was the first reference to the expedition which Collins was to undertake in 1803. In the context of this survey the inclusion of 'A bill of printing type' is of course of prime importance.

As can be seen from the copy of this request printed on p. 23, a general demand for 'paper for printing' was included, besides the 'two dozen of printing ink'. The reference to the source of supply for type, 'either from the late Messrs. Caslon or Mr. Figgins', indicates an awareness of the latest taste in type design. A broad-sheet advertising the new Figgins two-line letter fount had been published by T. Bensley in 1801<sup>2</sup> and it is possible that a copy of it might have been available in New South Wales at the time Collins wrote the request. However, Caslon's type founts were traditionally accepted by the British public and his large two-line and placard types had been in use since the 1760s. There is no evidence that Figgins's type founts were sent to Australia in the early years of the nineteenth century, perhaps because Figgins was not ready for delivery until about 1815. In fact Caslon's typefaces are found in practically all documents of that period that have been preserved.

1. *Historical Records of New South Wales*. Sydney, 1892-1901 (Vol. 4: 921-4).

2. Wolpe, Berthold, (ed.) *Vincent Figgins Type Specimens, 1801 and 1815, reproduced in facsimile*. London, Printing Historical Society, 1967.

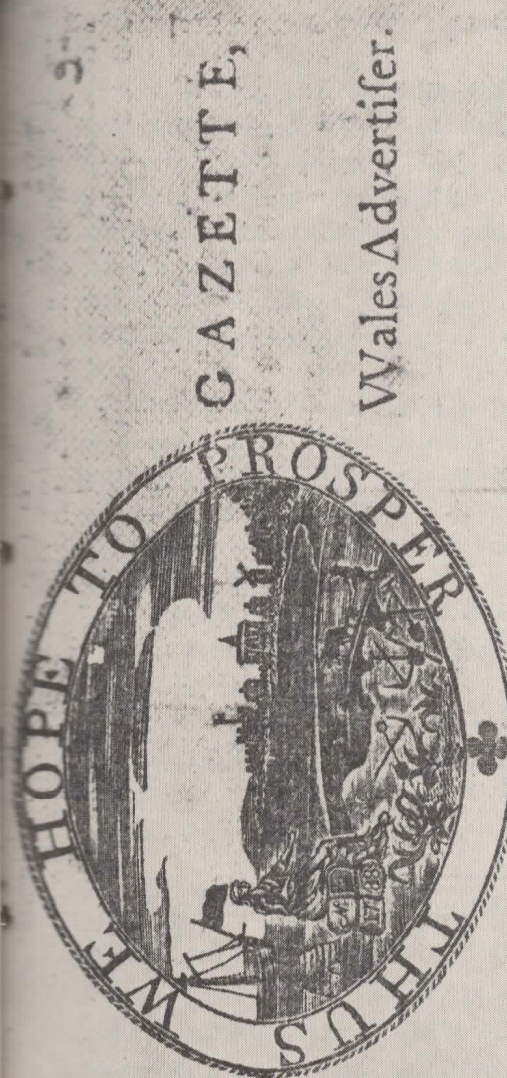


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the Mitchell Library, Sydney



SYDNEY

And New South

GAZETTE,

Wales Advertiser.

PUBLISHED BY AUTHORITY.

Vol. I.

SATURDAY, MARCH 5, 1803.

Number 1.

It is hereby ordered, that all Advertisements, Orders, &c. which appear under the Official Signature of the Secretary of this Colony, or of any other Officer of Government, properly authorised to publish them in the SYDNEY GAZETTE, AND NEW SOUTH WALES ADVERTISER, are meant, and must be deemed to convey official and sufficient Notifications, in the same Manner as if they were particularly specified to any one Individual, or Others, to whom such may have a Reference.

By Command of His Excellency the Governor and Commander in Chief, WILLIAM NEATE CHAPMAN, Secretary.  
Sydney, March 5th, 1803.

### General Orders.

**R**EPEATED Complaints having been made of the great losses sustained by the Settlers at Hawkesbury, from the vexatious conduct of the Boatmen by whom they send their Grain to Sydney, the following Regulations are to be observed.

Every person sending grain from the Hawkesbury to Sydney in an open boat, or a

read to the Guard on board the Supply Hulk.

By Command of His Excellency W. N. CHAPMAN, Sec. Government House, Feb. 21, 1803.

**T**HE RECEIVING Granaries at Parramatta and Hawkesbury, being filled with Wheat which is spoiling, no more can be taken in at those places until further Orders, except in payment for Government Debts, and the Whalers Investments lodged in the Public

To be distributed to such Persons as the Governor may think proper to grant Permits to, 1000 Gallons.  
The above to include the Civil and Military Officers at Norfolk Island.

By Command, &c. W. N. CHAPMAN, Sec. Government House, March 4, 1803.

### ADDRESS.

Innumerable as the Obstacles were which



# A BILL OF PRINTING TYPE

	£	s.	d.
A small fount of pica roman letter of 80 lb. weight, in which is to be included twelve metal French rules of 3 and 4 m's, and six alphabets of two-line pica full face letters, except the letters A, E, R, T, of which there must be nine of a sort	6	0	0
NOTE.—This small fount is only for doing jobs, and must consist of but a proportional quantity of lower-case sorts, capitals, small caps, a few figures, points, quadrats, spaces, &c., and no double letters or long f's are to be included in it, but a double quantity of round s's.			
Twenty lb. of double pica roman as before-mentioned in lower-case sorts, caps, &c.	1	10	0
Forty lb. of double pica roman, sorted for working jobs as above, in which is to be included eight alphabets of italick caps, sorted as the two-line pica mentioned above, and fourteen of the lower-case letters a, c, d, e, h, m, n, o, r, s, t, w, and eight of the rest of the alphabet	2	0	0
The figures of these founts are to be of the new cut as well as the caps. and small caps.			
One dozen lengths of brass rule of the usual size, four of which are to be thick	0	5	0
One dozen skeins of thick and thin scabbard	0	3	0
Two dozen of good printing ink	2	8	0
	£12	6	0

This type must be had from the founderies of either the late Messrs. Caslon or Mr. Figgins.

Paper for printing.

On 9 May, 1803, Governor King requisitioned supplies 'useful for the Public Service', and concluded his letter with the following special request: 'I have also enclosed a List of Articles that would be very useful for our Printing Press if it meets Your Lordship's Approbation.'<sup>1</sup> This list includes a request for printer's ornaments, namely 4 ships, 1 brig, 1 sloop, 12 ornamental French Rules, 6 Kings Coats of Arms, for all which sizes are given, and also 6 lbs. of long primer flowers in various unspecified sizes. The request also includes '10 Rheme of Printing Paper'. The concluding sentence of the requisition seems to suggest that either the commissary or the Governor had some doubts about the justification of the Government Printer's list of necessary supplies, because it reads: 'If this comes to be expensive half each quantity may be done with...'

1. *Historical Records of Australia*. Sydney, 1914-15 (Section I, Vol. 4: 233-4, 241-2).



Collins whose cultural and educational background was superior to that of most of his military colleagues in Australia was especially taken with the importance of having a printing press available in a new settlement. If the first Australian printer made history by operating a press in Government House, Sydney, no less significant were the conditions under which the first printed documents were issued at the Port Phillip settlement. Collins arrived on 9 October aboard the *Calcutta* and after discharging provisions and equipment from his ships on 10 October, 1803, almost immediately proceeded to set up a hand press on the beach at Sullivan Bay where a gum tree offered some shelter.<sup>1</sup> By 16 October with the assistance of a convict, George Clark,<sup>2</sup> he had the first of his daily General Orders and Garrison Orders struck off. As in the case of George Hughes, we have no record of Clark's training as a printer but there is reason to believe that Collins closely supervised this work. It is interesting to note that not a single copy of these printed orders is to be found in Australia today. The only set that has come down to us is kept in the Public Record Office, London. However, manuscript copies of the orders are preserved in the Mitchell Library, Sydney. The last of Collins's General Orders was printed on 25 January, 1804, on which day he embarked on the *Lady Nelson* to leave the Port Phillip settlement to its native population.

1. *The Tasmanian Almanack for the Year... 1829...* Hobart Town, compiled and printed by Andrew Bent, 1828 (p.84).

2. The entry for Thomas Clark(e) in the *Australian Dictionary of Biography* (Vol. 1:226-7) does not agree with the entry for Andrew Bent in the same volume (p. 86-7) where Bent's master is referred to as George Clark. J. West in his *History of Tasmania* (Vol. 1:46) refers to him as T. Clark.





## ESTO MEMOR BREVIS EVI,

" Ah! what is human life!

" How like the dial's tardy moving shade

" Day after day slides from us unperceived—

" The cunning fugitive, is swift by stealth—

" Too subtle is the movement to be seen!

" Yet soon the hour is up—and, we are gone!!

The melancholy and awful event which has happened since the Publication of our last Number, was so sudden, so unexpected that it appears like a frightful dream; The mind is averse to acknowledge the fatal truth, and with difficulty we bring ourselves to receive the confirmation of its reality—The loss of friends is at all times a cause for sorrow, even when through disease, or age and infirmities, such an occurrence has been long looked forward to and expected—But when without any previous warning they are removed from us, and in one instant we are deprived of those most dear; it becomes still more difficult to reconcile our minds to the loss, and we are almost tempted to arraign the Justice of that Providence which has taken them from this to another and a better world forgetting in our vain conceits that—

" Each friend snatched from us is a plume

" Plucked from the wings of human vanity "

The event alluded to is so recent in the memory of every one, and the death of **LIEUT. GOVERNOR COLLINS** is so sincerely felt and deplored by all the respectable, the industrious and honest inhabitants of this Colony, to whom he was truly a father and a friend; that no apology is necessary for appropriating this Number solely to record the mournful occurrence.

The **LIEUT. GOVERNOR**, had for some days been indisposed by a Cold, and had partially confined himself to the house but on the day of his demise (Saturday the 24th of March last) he found himself considerably better, and transacted business with **S. Warriner** his Clerk at 4 o'clock in the afternoon. When **Mr. Bowden** the Medical Gentleman who attended him called, he expressed his hope that he should very soon be about again—He was then taking a cup of tea, and shortly after desiring **Mr. Bowden** to make use of some refreshment, he was observed to stretch out his hands and suddenly fall back in his Chair apparently in a fit. **Mr. Bowden** immediately gave the alarm procured assistance and got some cordial down the **GOVERNOR'S** throat without effect he never spoke more!—And only when removed to a Couch gave one deep sigh and expired—All Medical aid was in vain for alas! the tide of life had ebbed, never to flow again—He died easily at half past 7 o'clock P. M.

The Grief and consternation depicted in all countenances when the sad tidings were announced is more easy to conceive than describe—every one wished to doubt the truth of the report—But

" When the death bell smote the ear

" Sad sounding on the gale—"

Deep and silent dejection seemed to take possession of each breast, and nothing was heard but the low voice of mutual condolence:

Thus then departed this life at the age of about 34 years His Honor **DAVID COLLINS** Esq. **LIEUT. GOVERNOR** of His Majesty's Settlement at the Derwent and Colonel in the Royal Marine Forces, in which Corps he had been for upwards of 36 years. In his youth he served several Campaigns in America under his Father the late **General Collins**, and was at the *Battle of Bunckers Hill*—In the Territories of New South Wales he had been in actual employment nearly a quarter of a Century, having (when a Captain in his Corps) been appointed Judge Advocate on the first establishment of the Colony at Port Jackson under Governor Phillip.

In this situation he continued until the year 1796. when he returned to England and published his history of the Colony in two Quarto Volumes—That he faithfully and ably discharged the arduous duties of the important Office he held, is fully demonstrated by the favour shewn him by his Sovereign, who reinstated him to all the rank he had lost in the Army by accepting a civil employment, and when, during **LORD HOBARTS** Administration, the present Settlement was projected to be established at Port Phillip in *Baill's Straits*, **COLLINS**, was recommended from his abilities, long services and local knowledge of the Country and inhabitants, to have the Command and direction of Settling the Infant Colony; and accordingly received His Majesty's gracious appointment to be **LIEUT. GOVERNOR** thereof.

In April 1803. He sailed in His Majesty's ship *Calcutta*, accompanied by the *Ocean* transport, having on board the ships most of the civil and Military Officers &c. on whom devolved the solemn task of paying the last tribute of respect to his Memory—In October the same year the ships arrived at their destined Port and the troops, prisoners stores &c. were disembarked—but a short residence proving that the spot was inadequate to the purpose of a Settlement, the whole of the establishment was removed early in the ensuing year to its present situation at the Derwent, where the **LIEUT. GOVERNOR** has constantly resided till this calamitous event, respected by all whilst living and universally lamented in his Death.

The person of our late **LIEUT. GOVERNOR**, was graceful and Commanding—His manners were affable and kind—He had read much—and in his Conversation was equally instructive and amusing—His Humanity to the unfortunate victims under his care was most conspicuous, being ever more ready to pardon than punish the offender—As far as his circumscribed means afforded in an infant state he attended to and complied with the WANTS AND WISHES OF ALL DESCRIPTIONS.

Those who most intimately knew him will allow that this imperfect attempt to delineate his Character is not the voice of adulation—Ah! he is now equally inensible to the blandishments of flattery and to the shaft of Censure—But the language of Sincerity his Memory demands.

" Alas! he claims it from the sable bier,

" Where cold and wan the slumberer rests his head

" In still small whispers to reflections ear.

" He breathes the solemn dictates of the dead. "

Are there any beings in this Colony, so despicable, so devoid of humanity, as to wish to " rake up the ashes of the honoured dead " and cast reflections on the Memory of him who is now unable to refute their calumnies?—If there are such, we recommend them to apply to themselves this text of Scripture.

" Thou hypocrite first cast the beam out of thine own eyes; and then thou shalt see clearly to cast out the mote from thy brothers eye. "

This is an original copy of Mr. Derwent Star  
It has been reproduced in 1875 or 1876 & was sent to  
from Hobart Town and I gave it to Arthur Collins Sep. 1876



## Tasmania

When Collins landed on the bank of the River Derwent he again set up his printing press and published his General Orders and Garrison Orders with the help of J. Barnes and G. Clark. It was not till 1810, however, that he made the first effort at promoting a Government sponsored newspaper, the *Derwent Star and Van Diemen's Land Intelligencer*. Barnes and Clark are cited as Government printers—the establishment of which office represents another significant example of Collin's appreciation of the printing press as an important factor in colonial development. The *Derwent Star* did not survive for more than a few weeks and it appears that only three copies of the seventh number, containing a funeral notice of Collins have survived to this day. (Plate 3.)

J. Barnes disappeared from the records of history soon after this year and in 1812 G. Clark's name appears as the only Government Printer on the pages of the 'new series' of *The Derwent Star*.<sup>1</sup> In the same year a convict named Andrew Bent joined the press and from 1815 on he seems to have been the only official Government Printer in Tasmania until he was imprisoned and fined on a charge of libel in 1825.<sup>2</sup>

Andrew Bent learned printing in London where he is said to have served his apprenticeship on *The Times*. There is no doubt that he considerably improved the standard of printing in Australia by the example of his work. Some enthusiasts referred to him as the 'Tasmanian Franklin'.<sup>3</sup> The first issue of the *Hobart Town Gazette and Southern Reporter*, 'Published by Authority' appeared on 1st June, 1816, but a

1. Ferguson, J. A., *Bibliography of Australia*. Sydney, Angus & Robertson, 1941—(Vol. 1: 196, 215).

2. *Australian Dictionary of Biography*. Melbourne, 1966 (Vol. 1: 86–7).

3. Calder, J. E., 'Something about Old Colonists: Andrew Bent' in *The Mercury* (Supplement), Hobart, 5 February 1881.



copy of an earlier issue, dated 11 May, 1816 has been recorded.<sup>1</sup> It bears the serial number 'volume the third number 158' and besides carrying an account of the voyage of H.M.S. *Kangaroo* from Port Jackson to Ceylon, it has the interesting final note 'want of type prevents insertion of several advertisements etc. which will appear in an Extra Gazette on Monday next'. There is no record of that extra issue.

On the northern shores of Tasmania printing was first undertaken by two of George Howe's sons, Robert and George Terry,<sup>2</sup> who set up a newspaper press and printed early in 1825 the *Tasmanian and Port Dalrymple Advertiser*. It lasted only until May of the same year when Governor George Arthur invited G. T. Howe to join James Ross as Tasmanian Government Printers.

The important struggle for the freedom of the press has been adequately dealt with by E. Morris Miller<sup>3</sup> and though the appearance and disappearance of many interesting characters on the stage of printing history is closely linked with that struggle it is beyond the scope of this article to repeat an account of their fate.

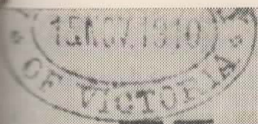
In 1828 the enterprising jack-of-all-trades, John Pascoe Fawkner, of Launceston, acquired from Andrew Bent the old press which had been the property of David Collins and had been used by George Clark and others to print Collin's first orders. Fawkner moved the printing press together with some type to Launceston—according to contemporary accounts it was a difficult journey during which press and type were several times nearly lost—and began the printing and publishing of the *Launceston Advertiser* in 1829. Fawkner did not retain possession of this newspaper for long and soon embarked upon his expedition to Victoria.

1. Miller, E. M., 'An Unrecorded Hobart Town Gazette' in *Papers and Proceedings of the Tasmanian Historical Research Association*, 1964 (Vol. 7: 34-43, 59-65).

2. George Terry was one of the five children born to George Howe and his *de facto* wife Elisabeth Easton (*Australian Dictionary of Biography*, Vol. 1: 557-9).

3. Miller, E. M., *Pressmen and Governors...* Sydney, Angus & Robertson, [1952].





THE

# Melbourne Advertiser,

## PORT PHILLIP, AUSTRALIA.

VOLUME 1,

MONDAY MARCH 5, 1838.

NUMBER 10.

### FOR FREIGHT OR PASSAGE

The Strong built cutter Rebecca, is now laid on as a regular Trader between Melbourne and Launceston, and is one of the fastest sailing craft in this trade, will prove to shippers of goods or to passengers the most eligible conveyance between Melbourne and Launceston.

Apply to CAPTAIN BELL.

Melbourne January 24th 1838.

### FOR SYDNEY

THE Schooner Sarah, CAPT. WILLIAM WINKWORTH will be ready to leave for the above Port on Thursday the 5th of March for Freight or passage Apply to the Master on board, or to W. F. A. KUCKER.

January 24th 1838.

### ON SALE

AT the Stores of the Mr. J. Batman at low prices for Cash per late Arrivals.

Taylor's Brown Stout in Hhds.  
 Luther & Sons Bottled Ale in three dozen cases  
 Marsella Wine in Hhds. Quarter Casks and half Aums  
 Superior Cognac Brandy  
 Geneva  
 Jamaica Rum  
 Mauritius Sugar  
 Hyson Skin Tea  
 Flour  
 Paint Oil  
 Turpentine  
 White Lead  
 Black and Green Paint  
 Cannister Gunpowder FFF  
 Shot of Sizes  
 Flat Square and Round Iron, Assorted  
 Yacht Shirts  
 Scotch Caps  
 Moleskin Trowsers  
 Cord and Olive Velvetten do.  
 Superior blue Cloth do.  
 Swansdown and Plush Waistcoats  
 Striped Shirts  
 Duck Frocks  
 Velvetten Shooting Jackets  
 Fastian do.  
 Superior Witney Blankets 8-4 4 4 10-4 11 4  
 Pocket Knives  
 Woolbagging  
 Window Glass  
 Superior Cavendish Tobacco  
 Colonial do.

ALSO

Fat Beef Mutton and Lamb at 5 pence per lb  
 Potatoes &c &c.  
 Melbourne, Feby. 16th 1838.

THE Undersigned begs to inform the public, that he keeps a boat and two Men in readiness for the purpose of crossing & recrossing passengers between William's Town and the opposit beach.

Parties from Melbourne are requested to raise a smoke, and the Boat will be at their service as soon as practicable, he least charge is five shillings and two shillings each when the number exceeds two.

H. McLEAN.

Williams Town Feby. 9th 1835.

### T. D. WEATHERLY.

TAKES this early opportunity to inform his friends and the public, that he supplies families with the best whetsten Bread at the lowest possible price, and to those who wish it he allows one Month's credit.

Feby. 27th. 1838.

### FAWKNER HOTELL

MELBOURNE. PORT PHILLIP.

SUPPLIES to the Traveler and sojourner, all the usual requisites of a Boarding House and Hotel and of the very best quality, being mostly laid in from the first Mercantile House in Cornwall V. D. Land, in addition to which there will be found mental recreation of a high order. There are provided seven English and five Colonial weekly newspapers. Seven British Monthly Magazines, three British Quarterly Reviews up to October 1837. A very choico selection of Books including Novels, Poetry, Theology, History, &c.

N. B. A late Encyclopedia, any of those works will be recd to the Lodgers at the above Hotel.  
 Melbourne Feby. 27th. 1838.

THAT STRONG BUILT SCHOONER ENTERPRIZE. Will continue to trade between the Ports of Melbourne and Launceston, at the REDUCED freight of Two Pounds per Ton, Wool sent over per Enterprize will be stored and shipped at Melbourne free of expence to the grower, and goods from Launceston will be carefully housed at a low rate. This Vessel has been Two years and a half constantly employed in this Trade, and has never damaged any part of her cargo.

Apply at Melbourne of J. P. FAWKNER.  
 At Launceston, of J. C. UNDERWOOD.

### FOR SALE

Ten young fine Woolled Rams, price five guineas each.  
 Enquire of Mr. FAWKNER.

### ON SALE

On Sale a few Bushels of good stone Lime.  
 Enquire of Mr. FAWKNER.



## Victoria

Due to Fawkner's enterprise printing was once more started at Port Phillip, about a generation after Collins had issued his first Garrison Orders from that area. The *Melbourne Advertiser* was first issued by Fawkner in manuscript form but when the long awaited printing press finally arrived from Launceston the 10th to 17th issues of Melbourne's first newspaper were printed. (Plate 4.) The editor's column contains the following statement: 'We earnestly beg the public to excuse this our first appearance in the absence of the compositor who was engaged. We were under the necessity of trusting our first number (in print) to a Van Demonian youth of eighteen, and he had only worked at this business about a year, from his tenth to his eleventh, 1830 to 1831. Next the *honest* printer from whom the type was bought, has swept up all his old waste letter and called it type, and we at present labour under many wants, we even have not as much as Pearl Ash to clean the dirty Type.'

In its essence, a familiar tale for all who tried to introduce improvements in the colonies. Fawkner's efforts as a printer-publisher were undoubtedly inspired by the best of political motives but his press work remained very inferior to that of the Sydney and Hobart craftsmen.



## South Australia

The establishment of printing in Sydney, Hobart and Launceston, then in Melbourne was in all respects a natural development, given the fact that the settlers, free or bond, were anxious to establish and improve lines of internal communication. The social and political conditions which led to the establishment of the colony of South Australia were so different that it is not surprising that the establishment of a printing press there should be surrounded by peculiar conditions. The British struggle for a free press demonstrated to the would-be-pilgrims to South Australia that their utopian view of a free society would not be realizable unless their settlement was supported from the beginning by a free press. In their anxiety to organize heaven before departing from this world as they knew it, the *South Australian Gazette and Colonial Register* was started in London by Robert Thomas,<sup>1</sup> with the intention 'to print the first number of the paper in the capital of the civilized world, and the second in a city of the wilderness, the site of which was then unknown'.<sup>2</sup> However, a year lapsed before the second issue of the *South Australian Gazette* was printed in Adelaide, in 1837. Robert Thomas and his associate, George Stevenson, brought with them two presses, one of which was a cast-iron Stanhope press and the other a wooden press. The Stanhope press was more modern than any other imported into Eastern Australia until then. It is interesting to note that the planners had not overlooked the necessity to have a competent printer in the 'wilderness' and Robert Fisher had been engaged as a journeyman. He was to be assisted by an apprentice called Osborne, but the latter unfortunately died soon after landing at Kangaroo Island. Due to an oversight the type destined for the printing of the *Gazette* was allowed to be taken to Hobart instead of being unloaded at Glenelg and when Robert

1. Pitt, G. H., *The Press in South Australia, 1838-1850*. Adelaide, Wakefield Press, 1964.

2. *Ibidem*, p. 3-4.



Thomas & Co. were appointed Government Printers on 4th January, 1837, they had barely enough type for small job printing. Nevertheless they, too, set up the first chapel in a tent under one of Australia's many historic gum trees and on 11 January, 1837, printed a hundred copies of Governor Hindmarsh's proclamation issued a few days earlier (28 December, 1836).

A second proclamation was printed on 5 January and on 23 January an appeal was published over the name of Edward Stephens, the pseudonym of George Stevenson, partner of the firm of Robert Thomas & Co. and Private Secretary to the Governor.

By the end of May, 1837, Thomas had been able to transfer the printing press to a mud hut in the town and on 3 June, 1837, the second issue of the *South Australian Gazette* appeared. From then on, printing progressed on conventional lines in this State.



## Western Australia and Queensland

It is of special interest to note, when determining the dates on which printing was established in the various Australian capitals, that a press was set up in Perth some six to seven years before those in Melbourne and in Adelaide. J. S. Battye, one of the few Australian historians of repute to consider the history of printing and of the press as an integral part of a people's history, refers in *Western Australia* to the press as 'other evidences of civilization'<sup>1</sup> which were found relatively early in Western Australia. In the same passage he goes on to say: 'That great want of British communities—a newspaper—was met by the issue, in manuscript, of the *Western Australian Chronicle and Perth Gazette*', which was born and died after four issues in 1831. Later in that same year a press was brought to Fremantle from Tasmania (apparently printing presses were a notable export from Tasmania during the first 25–30 years of that colony) by a certain Charles Macfaull and associates, and the first issue of the *Fremantle Observer, Perth Gazette and Western Australian Chronicle* was published on 25 April, 1831.

In the beginning the press was set up in a wheat shed but discord among the owners and publishers forced the victor in the dispute to remove the press to a place called Hamilton Hill where the *Fremantle Observer etc.* lingered for about 12 months before it finally ceased publication, partly because of lack of news, partly because of squabbles among the owners of the paper. The owner of the plant then began another paper called *The Inquisitor* which lasted even less long for the simple reason that two of its editorial staff found it appropriate to settle their political differences by a duel, in which one of them was mortally wounded. (Plate 5.)

In the meantime another paper had been started in Perth with the title *Western*

1. Battye, J. S., *Western Australia: a History from its Discovery to the Inauguration of the Commonwealth*. Oxford, Clarendon Press, 1924 (p. 113).



# The INQUISITOR IN WEST AUSTRALIA

*Veritatis simplex oratio est.*

No. 7. **FREMANTLE**, August, 21st. 1833.

## THIS IS THE KING'S BIRTH DAY.

The Monarch of England completes his 67<sup>th</sup> year of Age, on this date; and the Thunder of Artillery, the bustle of the Levee, the cheers of the Banquet, and the Shouts of the multitude will resound in every part of the World. We love to witness the Loyal Enthusiasm, of Free and Independent Britons! from our Infancy we have been accustomed to it! The day is com-; the Chandlers are at work as usual; and the every day gloom pervades, and we cannot see, nor do we hear a single show of rejoicing, or note of preparation. Is there not something (to say the least) unusual in all this? To be sure there is. The people want the "Tone" and there is nobody to give it.

—♦♦♦—  
We have never witnessed more anxiety than that which prevails here, respecting the, "News from England." up to this date however there is no appearance of the wished for Vessel. The weather has been for some time past very severe, not only from wind and rain; but from intense cold; as it has become somewhat moderate it is likely, we shall soon have a good account of the expected stranger.

to the EDITOR.

SIR. Understanding that you Rank high in the Antient and Honourable Craft of FREE and ACCEPTED MASON, I wish to be informed, Why a Lodge has not been formed here ere this? as a "PRINCE" Mason, (if I am informed right,) YOU have the authority to do it. Your early attention will oblige. HINAM.

We shall be happy to forward the views of our Correspondent; as is, our bounden Duty. The matter has not been lost sight of by us, reasons which can only be explained to a qualified Brother, intervened. Interview would therefore be desirable. Ed.

The Pamphlet, the Picture, and The "APOSTATE" we will give due attention to. Ed.



*Australian Colonial News*. It lasted only for about eighteen months (from the end of 1831 till early 1833) when it was replaced by a new venture sponsored by the indefatigable Macfaull. *The Perth Gazette and Western Australian Journal*, Australia's second oldest newspaper, was printed on a Stanhope press which Macfaull had succeeded in importing in 1832; this paper continues till this day as *The West Australian*, thus providing a continuous link with the earliest printing efforts in Western Australia.

Brisbane was the last State capital to benefit from the establishment of a printing press. The foundation of the *Moreton Bay Courier* appears to have been an act of deliberate policy and there is little of the heroic in the setting up of the first press by James Swan and his sponsor, A. S. Lyon. The first issue of the *Moreton Bay Courier* appeared on 20 June, 1846, and it has continued ever since, albeit its name was changed to *The Courier Mail*.<sup>1</sup>

1. Knights, J. J., *In the Early Days; History and Incident of Pioneer Queensland, with Dictionary of Dates in Chronological Order*... Brisbane, Sapsford & Co. ... Printer, 1895 (p. 45).



## Supplies

If the absence of trained craftsmen hampered the development of quality and tradition in Australian printing—quite apart from the socio-political difficulties that stood in the way of a free press movement—the lack of printers' supplies presented no less a hurdle. Brief mention has already been made of the many requests sent 'home' for ink, paper, and type. Even today, more than a century and a half since the first attempt was made to produce some of the basic materials for printing in Australia, there is a quite unreasonable tendency to rely on British manufacturers for many high-quality goods. The perishable nature of the paper used during the earliest years of printing in Australia has been often remarked upon. The broadsides, government orders, and public notices were at any rate not usually looked upon as historical documents, but rather as simple means of communicating news often of an ephemeral nature. The paper sent to the colonies at the beginning of the nineteenth century had to be both relatively light and resistant to moisture. A high clay content was therefore the least desirable of qualities and explains the predominance of a type of rice paper today most commonly found in East Asia. It is not surprising therefore that there are few copies extant of these original documents illustrating early printing in Australia.

A real paper shortage continued in Australia during the first 50 years. Throughout the nineteenth and early twentieth centuries the consumption of newsprint could not be met by the local paper mills. Better than any historian could depict it, the situation is summed up in this note carried in the *Sydney Gazette* of 12 January, 1806: 'To Subscribers. The scarcity of Paper which has long and generally been felt throughout the Colony, at length terminates our prospect of continuing this publication for a much longer period. Solicitous at the same time of supporting the chain of Colonial Occurrences without total interruption, a further retrenchment



becomes the work of necessity, and as this can only take place in the frequency of publication we doubt not the public acquiescence in the measure. This paper will therefore be only published every fortnight instead of weekly; the alteration to take place from Sunday next, should no supply be received in the interim, of which Advertisers are requested to take notice.<sup>1</sup> It is one of many 'cris de cœur' on this subject.

The first mill to manufacture paper in Australia was established at Botany Bay. An advertisement in the *Sydney Gazette* of 18 April, 1818, calls for raw materials for paper making: 'Warren and Duncan respectfully beg leave to inform the Public that having by Permission erected a PAPER MILL at a short distance east of the New Road to Botany Bay, they want rags, linen and cotton, and will pay good prices.'<sup>2</sup> Of course rags, linen, and cotton had to come from Europe. In the 1860s several other paper mills were started in New South Wales but the first Victorian mill was not set up until 1868 when Samuel Ramsden, a self-made businessman, ventured into this manufacturing field. He was most successful, and soon bought out his two competitors.<sup>3</sup>

The supply of type founts presented another problem of considerable magnitude. As already mentioned, some type reached Australia during the 1790s. This supply, probably second-hand when it reached Sydney, was becoming more and more worn through constant use and in 1815 George Howe persuaded Governor Macquarie to ask the Colonial Secretary for an extensive supply of new founts.<sup>4</sup> There appears to be no record in the official correspondence that this request was met either wholly or in part. However, when, in 1821, Robert Howe succeeded his father as Government Printer, he requested a further substantial replacement of type: 'I discovered there was a necessity for having a speedy reinforcement of Type, etc. that now in Use being from long and continued Service, much worn and defaced.'<sup>5</sup>

The dependence on imported type became increasingly irksome and in the early 1850's attempts were made to produce type founts in Australia. On the 7th January, 1843, the *Sydney Morning Herald* could proudly proclaim: 'The Government Ga-

1. *Sydney Gazette*, 12 January 1806.

2. *Ibidem*, 18 April 1818.

3. *Illustrated Australian News*. Melbourne, 21 March 1877 (No. 248: 42).

4. *Historical Records of Australia*. Sydney, 1914-25 (Section 1, Vol. 8: 605-6).

5. *Ibidem* (Section 1, Vol. 10: 545-6).



zette is now printed with a fount of long primer type, cast in the colony by a Mr. Thomson, who arrived here about two years ago. The successful establishment of this foundry will be highly advantageous to the printers, not only of Sydney, but of Port Phillip and the neighbouring colonies, as old worn-out letters can be recast instead of being sent to England at a heavy cost. We trust Mr. Thomson may meet with encouragement, for his types, as may be seen upon reference to the Government Gazette, are handsome, and in fact equal to those cast in London or Glasgow.<sup>1</sup>

Ink was imported into Australia for quite some time during the early years but successful attempts to produce this important adjunct to printing are reported in the *Sydney Gazette* in 1829: 'Among the manufactures which have been successively attempted in the Colony, and which are daily advancing in number and in character we are truly rejoiced in being able to record that of *printing ink*. Dr. Walker, of Campbelltown, has ventured on this difficult but invaluable process and has certainly succeeded beyond our most sanguine expectation. We had long observed his advertisement but concluding his article would be necessarily of a very inferior quality we never thought it worthwhile, till a few days ago, to procure a sample; but, to our great astonishment, we find his ink immensely superior to a large stock of English ink now in our Office. The Public may judge for themselves, for the Sydney Gazette is now printed with Dr. Walker's ink, with the exception of a very insignificant proportion of English ink being mixed with it.'<sup>2</sup>

By the end of the 1840's printing was firmly established in all Australian capitals and the basic industries connected with the printing trade had also achieved a modest beginning. Melbourne's *Evening Star*, which began in October 1867, is claimed to be the first Australian newspaper printed on Australian-made paper with Australian-made ink. (Plate 6.)

It remains to mention briefly two processes closely connected with book production and illustration. Before the advent of photographic reproductions, pictures and other illustrated matter could only be reproduced in a book if engraved or copied on wood or metal blocks, or drawn on lithographic stone. Australia's first engravers were P. Sleger, W. Preston, and I. R. Brown who worked for Absalom West, a convict, who arrived in Sydney in 1798 and had become an able brewer

1. *Sydney Morning Herald*, 7 January 1843.

2. *Sydney Gazette*, 3 March 1829.



# The Evening Star.

PUBLISHED EVERY AFTERNOON.

No. 1.] MELBOURNE, MONDAY, OCTOBER 14, 1867. [PRICE, 1D.

**P R O S P E C T U S**  
OF  
"THE EVENING STAR,"  
PRICE ONE PENNY.

A NEWSPAPER PUBLISHED IN MELBOURNE  
EVERY AFTERNOON AT HALF-PAST FOUR  
O'CLOCK PUNCTUALLY, ONE AND AFTER THE  
14TH OCTOBER, 1867.

It has long been a matter of surprise that  
Melbourne, a city of nearly fifty thousand  
inhabitants, and one which can justly  
boast of being the most important and in  
every respect the *Metropolis* of Australia,  
should not possess an Evening Newspaper,  
an indication of progress and refinement  
which, in so many other places of far less  
importance, is regarded as an institution  
indispensable as a medium affording, to all  
sections of the community, that which  
cannot be obtained by any other means,  
all the *News of the Day* of issue up to a  
late hour in the afternoon.

In presenting to the public this new  
journal, the Proprietors of the *Evening  
Star* need scarcely state that their object  
is to supply a want that has of late been  
much felt, in a manner worthy in every  
respect of its important responsibilities,  
in a form which will reflect credit upon  
themselves, and at a price which will place  
it within the reach of everybody, and thus  
secure a very large and legitimate circula-  
tion.

In order to fulfil these intentions, the  
Proprietors of the *Evening Star* have  
made arrangements which will enable

**GEORGE CARABY,**  
A Notice of Removal.  
Merchant Tailor,  
Removed to 11 Collins-street west,  
Opposite Langwill and Co., Wholesale  
Ironmongers.

**ALFRED COOPER, AUCTIONEER**  
and Estate Agent, 46 Collins-street  
east. Sales of Furniture, &c., by Auction,  
at Private Residences, conducted with  
punctuality and attention, at reasonable  
charges. Advances made upon Freeholds  
or other securities.

**CARTE-DE-VISITE** PORTRAITS,  
12s. per dozen.  
**WOOD, PHOTOGRAPHER,**  
41 Collins-street West.

**J. HICKEY & CO.**  
**CARVER, GILBER, PRINT SELLER,**  
and Picture Frame Maker, 220  
Bourke-street East (near Parliament  
House).  
Frames Re-gilt, Oil Paintings and En-  
gravings cleaned. Gold, Fancy Wood,  
and Compo Mouldings. Frames of every  
description to order.

**M. WALTON, SURGEON-DEN-  
TIST,** 120 Collins-street east (three  
doors from Russell-street).

**GAUL & DUNN,**  
PHOTOGRAPHERS,  
75 & 77  
SWANSTON STREET.

Prize Medal awarded for excellence in  
**CARTE DE VISITE**

**M. E. MEYERS, R.A.,** Drawing,  
Writing, and Arithmetic Master,  
who visits some of the principal Scholastic  
Establishments in Melbourne and its  
vicinity, has a few hours per diem  
disengaged. Reference is kindly permitted  
to the Vice-Chancellor of the University:  
Dr. Mueller, Government Botanist: Count  
De Gaschuan, Consul-General for France;  
the Misses Murphy, Watte House, Se.  
Kilda; Monsieur and Madam Permezel  
and Miss Evans, Talbot Lodge, East  
Melbourne, and other Patrons.  
No. 8 Lincoln Place South, Carlton.

**PARIS EXPOSITION, 1867.**  
The Sewing-machine Result.  
Wheeler and Wilson carry the day.  
The only GOLD MEDAL for perfection  
in SEWING MACHINES has been  
awarded to WHEELER and WILSON.  
There were 82 competitors, and the great-  
est interest attended the announcement  
of the result.  
At the present reduced prices there is  
no excuse for having inferior machines.  
From £10 10s. Testimonials and illus-  
trated circulars sent post free.  
**LONG and CO.,** 166 Bourke-street east  
(three doors below the Eastern Market),  
agents for the Australasia and New Zea-  
land.

**SAVING TO FAMILIES.—HENRY  
DAY, 12 Eastern Market, and 206  
Stephen Street, Butcher, supplies families  
with the best and choicest qualities of  
Meat, at most reasonable prices. Orders  
punctually attended to.**

**THE GROVER & BAKER  
SEWING-MACHINE COMPANY**  
(Purveyors of Sewing-machines to  
HER MAJESTY  
The EMPRESS of the FRENCH,  
And other Royal Personages),  
Manufacture Machines making the  
**ELASTIC SPLICER,**

**ALARGE STOCK  
OF  
SUMMER GOODS**  
New opened at  
Nos. 3 & 5 Bourke-street, next Post Office  
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and publican.<sup>1</sup> West's fame rose to still greater heights when he financed and published some first-class engravings of John Eyre's *Views of Sydney* which first appeared in 1812.

Lithography appears to have come to Australia in 1821 with Sir Thomas Brisbane, Australia's astronomer-governor. His interests and scientific pursuits prompted him to set up a couple of lithographic presses in the Parramatta Observatory where he had installed C. C. L. Rümker as his personal astronomer.<sup>2</sup> When Rümker fell out of favour and resigned his post in 1823, one of the presses became the property of the painter A. W. Earle, who used it to produce in 1826 three illustrations for his *Views in Australia*.

In conclusion, I must reiterate that this brief essay deals solely with the general history of the establishment of printing in Australia. Though a good deal of anecdotal material is available about the early publishers, there is practically no record of the incidentals of the printing houses, of the difficulties encountered with the second-hand presses and the adaptations to them necessitated by the lack of spare parts. Save a few brief comments concerning the wearing out of type, we don't even know precisely who brought out the first few founts. Of the surely unavoidable struggle of the early master printers with their apprentices, we have no tales. However, it may justly be doubted whether snippets of information which extensive historical research might produce, would substantially add to the history of the spread of printing to the Pacific region.

1. Dixon, Sir W..., 'Absalom West, and West's Views' in *Journal and Proceedings of the Royal Australian Historical Society*, 1945 (Vol. 31: 45-52).

2. MacKanness, G., 'Printing in Australia' in *Journal and Proceedings of the Royal Australian Historical Society*, 1951 (Vol. 36: 121-5).



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## THE SPREAD OF PRINTING

### *A history of printing outside Europe in monographs*

#### AUSTRALIA

ABOUT THE AUTHOR – Dietrich Hans Borchardt was born in 1916 in Hanover, Germany. He received his early education in Germany and Italy and completed his M. A. in philosophy and psychology at Victoria University, Wellington, New Zealand, in 1946. He holds the diploma of the New Zealand Library School. He is an Associate of the (British) Library Association, and a Foundation Fellow of the Library Association of Australia. He has had several year experience in the book trade in Europe and New Zealand, and he has also spent some years farming in various parts of the world.

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ABOUT THE EDITOR – Colin Clair, who began his career as author and journalist in Paris, was, on his return to England, for many years on the staff of the Encyclopaedia Department of the Amalgamated Press. During the Second World War he was sent to various parts of Africa, first as a staff reporter on a national newspaper, and later as a member of the French Service of the Ministry of Information. After the war he travelled extensively in Argentina, Poland, and the Near East before settling down in London to the steady routine of authorship combined with editorial activities.

His interest in printing was first aroused when as a young man he visited the Plantin-Moretus Museum at Antwerp. This led him eventually to write the first biography in English of the famous printer Christophe Plantin. A member of the Bibliographical Society, London, Colin Clair has contributed articles on the history of printing to journals in various countries. Among his books are *A History of Printing in Britain* and a *Chronology of Printing and Publishing*. He is now preparing for future publication a *History of Printing in Europe*.



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